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62-5983

20 August 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Albert D. Wheelon
Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence (D/SI)

SUBJECT: Exploratory Conversations with [redacted]
Program Coordinator, [redacted]

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1. One of the problems arising from the Joint Study Group (Kirkpatrick Group) recommendations which has been of concern to the Coordination Staff has been that of developing a realistic system for evaluating the performance of the various collection facilities and activities of the intelligence community. In connection with our consideration of this problem, several months ago [redacted] of OSI discussed with us certain ideas which he had developed relating to this problem.

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2. As we understand it, his concept of a possible system is somewhat as follows:

a. With respect to any given intelligence problem of continuing significance, the detailed gaps in available information would be derived from a careful analysis and breakdown of the current NIE on the subject.

b. Incoming intelligence information from all sources, identified by the responsible analyst as relating to any of the above gaps, would be recorded.

c. After a suitable period (e.g., one year), it should be possible to determine the contribution which each collection facility had made toward filling each informational gap. It would also be possible to identify those gaps for which no existing collection facility could furnish information and for which it would be desirable to develop new collection devices or techniques. [redacted] concept envisions the use of machine techniques to perform the necessary recording and final retrieval of data.

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3. Recently, [redacted] representative of the [redacted] [redacted] indicated to me that his company would be interested in developing a proposal for a system which would permit evaluation and subsequent redirection of collection efforts. We understand that

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[] will shortly be visiting [] on other business for OSI and [] would like to talk with him again. While we are not convinced that [] concepts are feasible, it may be useful, while he is visiting the company, to explain his ideas in some detail with the thought in mind that the company might wish to develop a specific proposal along such lines. There would, of course, be no commitment on anyone's part with regard to such a proposal if it were forthcoming. [] is a Navy Captain, Reserve, who has had extensive experience in intelligence, including duty with the Joint Staff, JCS. He has a Top Secret clearance.

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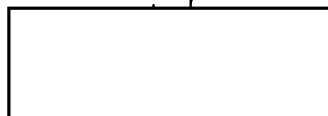
4. If [] should develop and present a proposal, as a result of discussions with [] we hope you would be agreeable to our making it available to DIA, which is also giving thought to a system of evaluation based upon machine recording.

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5. You may wish to talk to [] the next time he is in Washington as he is very dedicated to the idea that [] and other such companies, should tackle some of the problems in the intelligence field which have not been seriously considered, up to now, by the business communities.

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Assistant for Coordination

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